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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Applicant: | A. Burchell et al. | Examiner: | Lisa V. Cook |
| Serial No.: | 09/972,105 | Group Art Unit: | 1641 |
| Filed: | October 4, 2001 | Docket: | 350013-76 |
| Title: | PRENATAL DIAGNOSTIC METHODS | | |


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 Elizabeth Bai

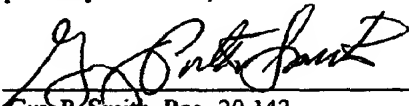
**PETITION FOR ONE MONTH EXTENSION
OF TIME (37 C.F.R. 1.136(A))**

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time to respond to the Final Office Action mailed September 24, 2003. The original time for response was set to expire December 23, 2003.

Should any additional fees be necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any such fees or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2230 (Reference 350013-76).

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Guy P. Smith, Reg. 20,142

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1 month ext